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EP/DIR	(1)	(initials)	1-23
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TECH ADV			
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ASST FOR P&M			
ASST FOR OPS	(2)	(initials)	
ASST FOR PA			
ASST FOR TD			
CH/CSD			
CH/IPD			
CH/PD			
CH/PSD			
CH/TID			
CH/CIA/IAD			
CH/DIA/XX-4			
CH/DIA/AP-IP			
CH/SPAD			
LO/CGS/CIA			
LO/NSA			

REMARKS

PKS

As discussed last mite - This is a good candidate for the placemat memo package. Suggest you arrange to get board prepared - if not available.

PLEASE Return document to me.

Agree - but check with DIND - IAD may already have moved ahead on this

If not DIND can set up for Board -

Advised Vince - 23/1/67

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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT



**NORTH VIETNAM
TENTH MONTH RICE CROP**

NPIC R-408/66
DECEMBER 1966

GROUP 1 EXCLUDED FROM
AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING
AND DECLASSIFICATION

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WARNING

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

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NPIC R-408/66

NORTH VIETNAM TENTH MONTH RICE CROP***INTRODUCTION**

The determination of the rice crop status in North Vietnam, especially planting dates, will provide information that could possibly be correlated with additional information, i.e., meteorological data, to estimate crop success. Reconnaissance photography obtained from numerous missions was reviewed. Excellent-quality, low-level photography of [] covered a narrow strip extending from the mouth of the Song Len at 19-58N 105-59E, over Ninh Binh at 20-15N 105-58E, and ending near the mouth of the Song Ngo Dong at 20-11N 106-21E (Figure 1).

DESCRIPTION

The photography of [] was studied to determine if rice planting, young rice fields, and recently planted rice fields could be differentiated. The scale of the photography ranged from approximately 1:3,500 to 1:9,000. It was found that if the larger scale was used, individual clumps or rows of plants could be seen, thus making the differences easily detectable (Figure 2). If a smaller scale is used and the individual plants or crop texture are no longer visible, the tone differences aid in identifying crop status (Figure 3). The latter method of determining crop status probably produces less reliable results.

On [] 34 percent of the fields in the sample areas were either ready for planting or recently planted, and 22 percent of the fields were not prepared for planting (Table 1). Some of these fields may be intended for other

crops or may lie fallow this planting season. It would appear that the planting for the tenth month crop would be more than half finished. It is doubtful that a higher percentage of fields would be at the planting stage at any other time because of lack of mechanization.

OTHER ITEMS OBSERVED

Probable seedbeds were observed throughout the area. These seedbeds resemble the smooth texture of mature rice fields; however, they have not turned the lighter tone of mature rice. Removal of the seedlings from the seedbeds leaves a field free of stubble.

Rice planting technique was visible at 20-11N 106-21E (Figure 3). After the field is prepared for planting--generally by flooding and plowing one or more times by buffalo-drawn plow--the seedlings are apparently laid out in baskets (in which the seedlings are carried to the field), guide rows are laid out, and then the areas between the rows are planted. Shortly after planting, the baskets may be seen scattered around the field. (Figure 2).

Table 1. Status of Rice Fields in Sample Areas,

Status	Percent*
Fields unprepared for planting	22
Fields prepared for planting	10
Fields being planted	5
Fields of young rice	19
Fields of middle growth stage rice	34
Fields of mature rice	10

*The percentages indicate amount of identifiable rice fields in the designated category, not the percentages of total cultivated area.

*The tenth month rice crop is the crop harvested around November, approximately the tenth month of the lunar year.

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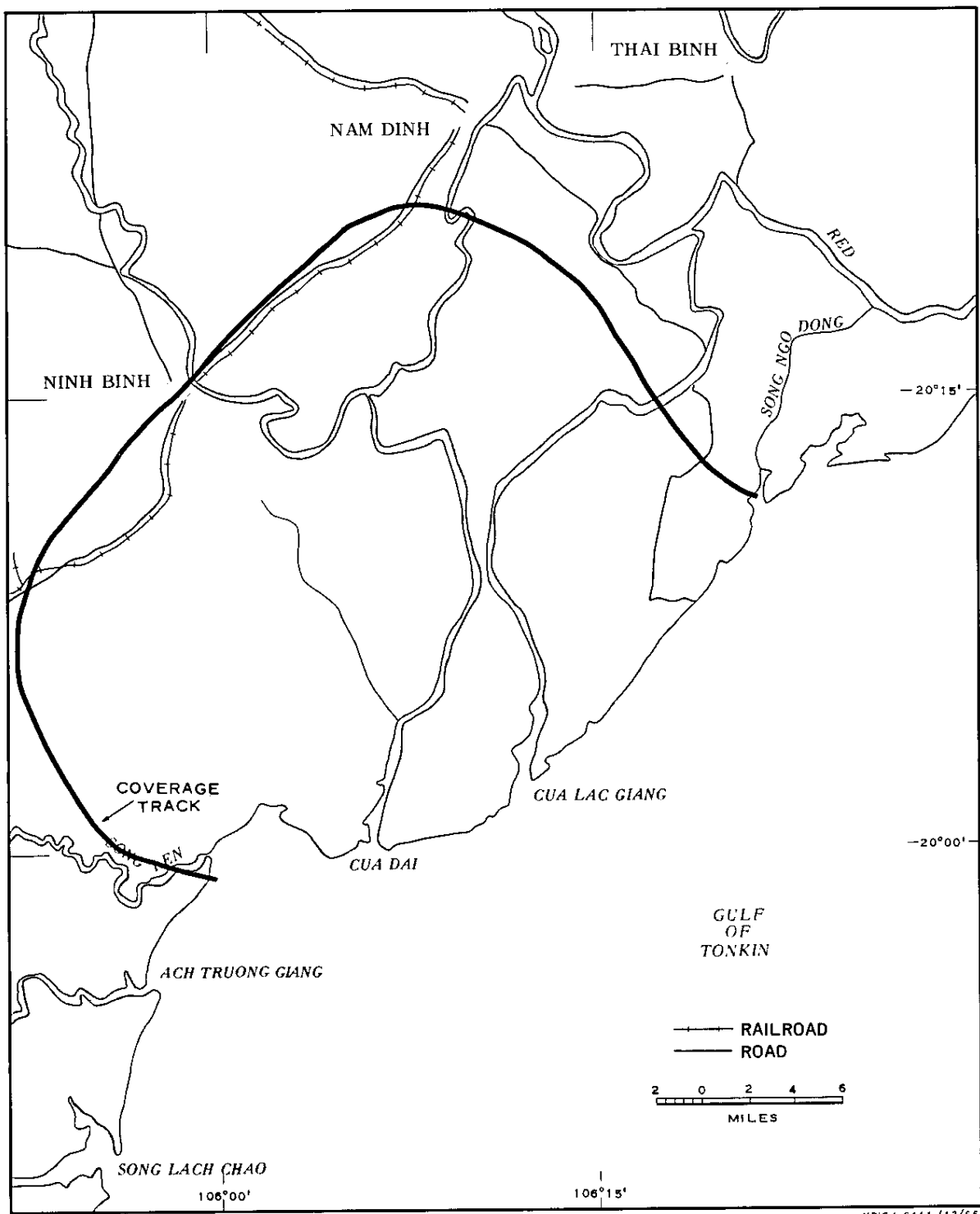


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE,

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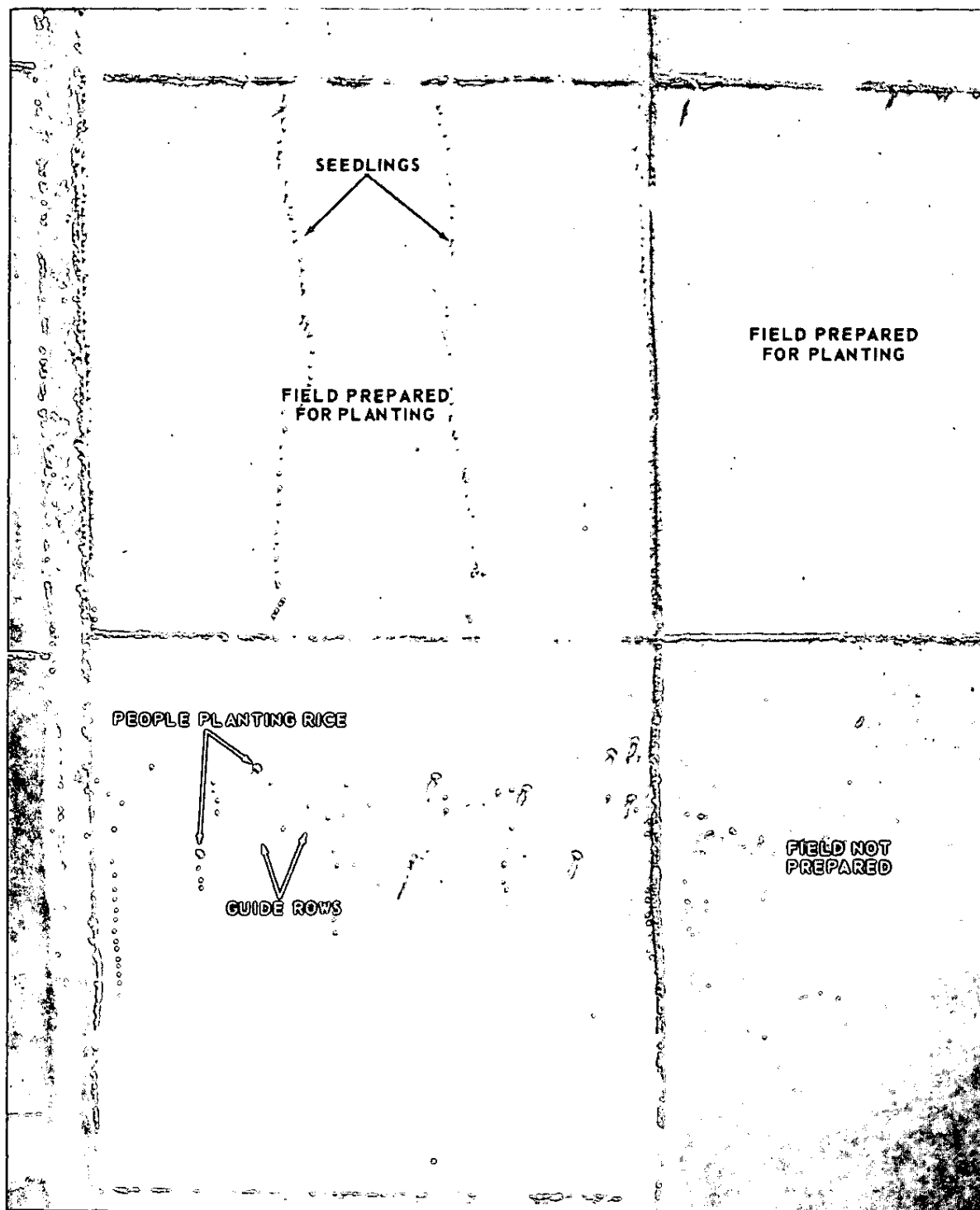


FIGURE 2. LARGE-SCALE PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE OF PLANTING OPERATIONS.

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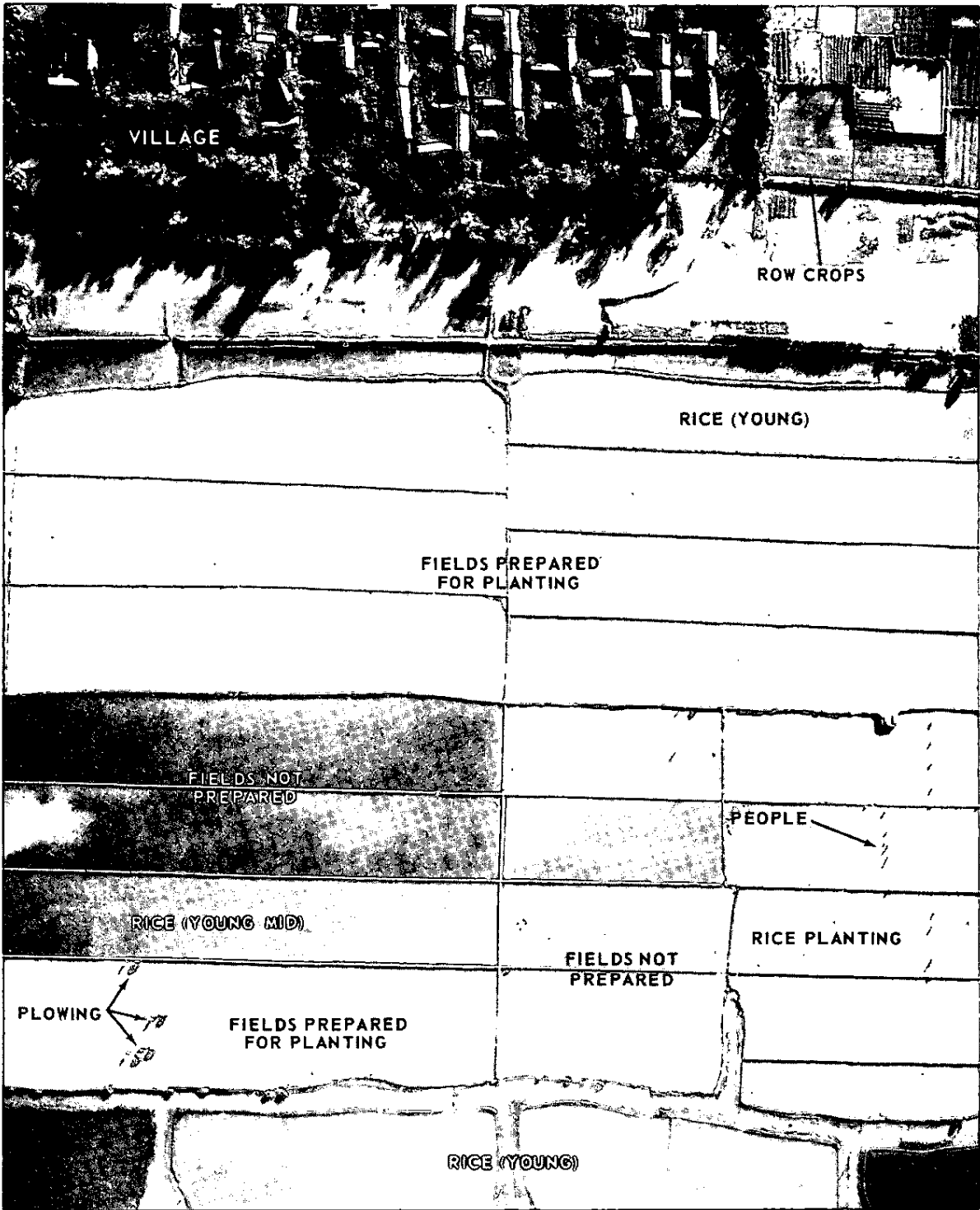


FIGURE 3. SMALL-SCALE PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE OF PLANTING OPERATIONS.

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REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

<u>Mission</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Camera</u>	<u>Frames</u>	<u>Classification</u>

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MAPS OR CHARTS

ACIC series, scale 1:250,000
AMS series, scale 1:250,000

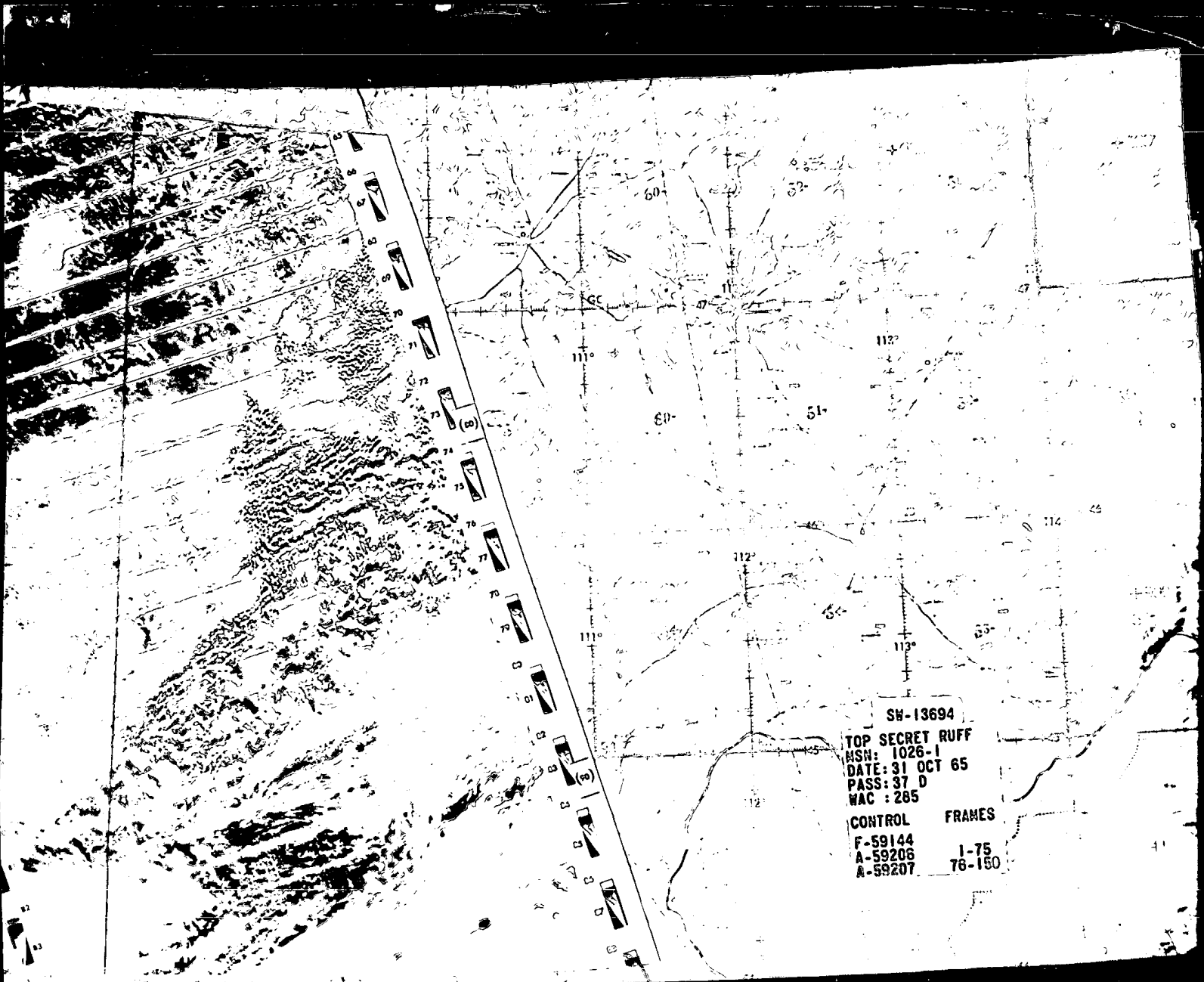
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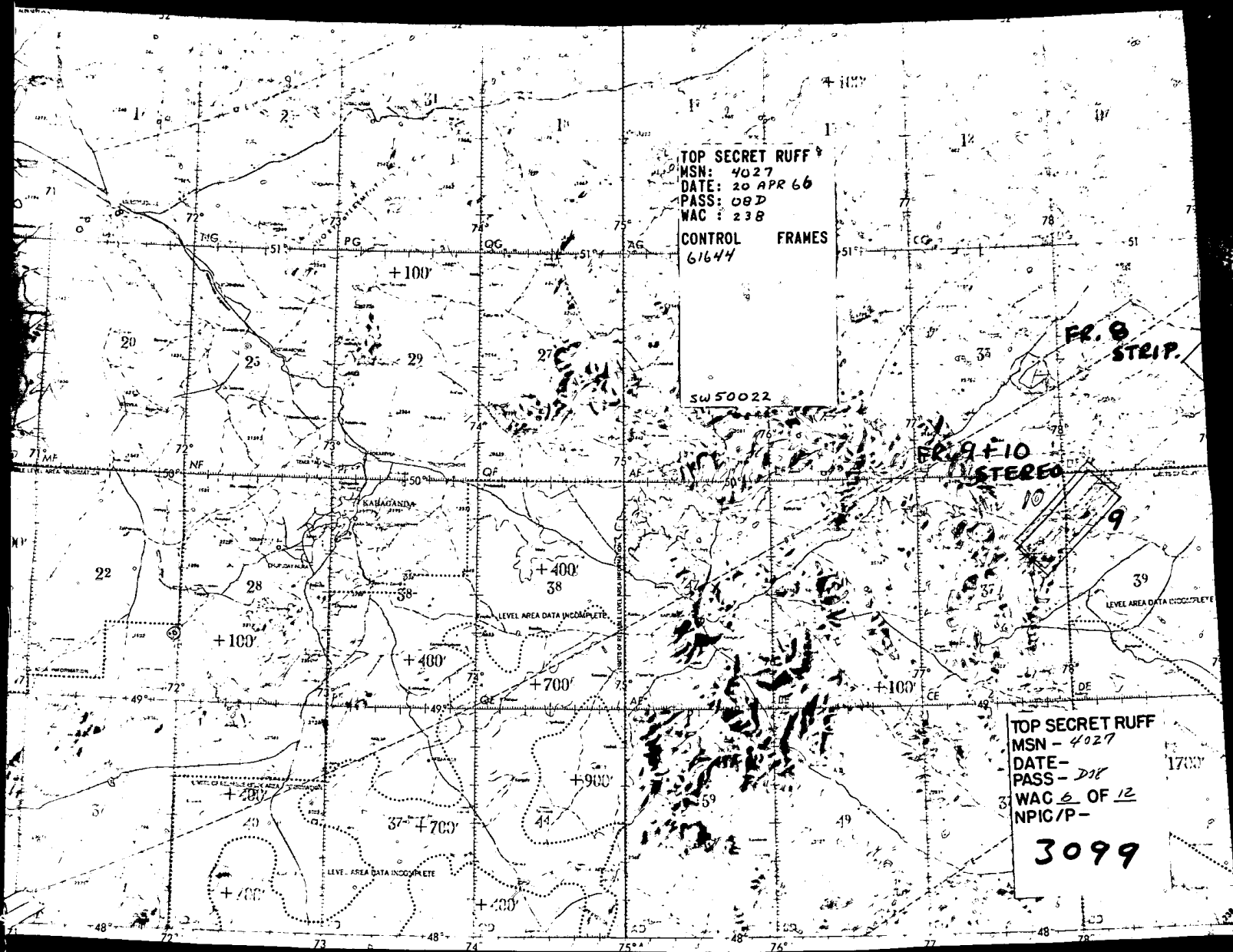
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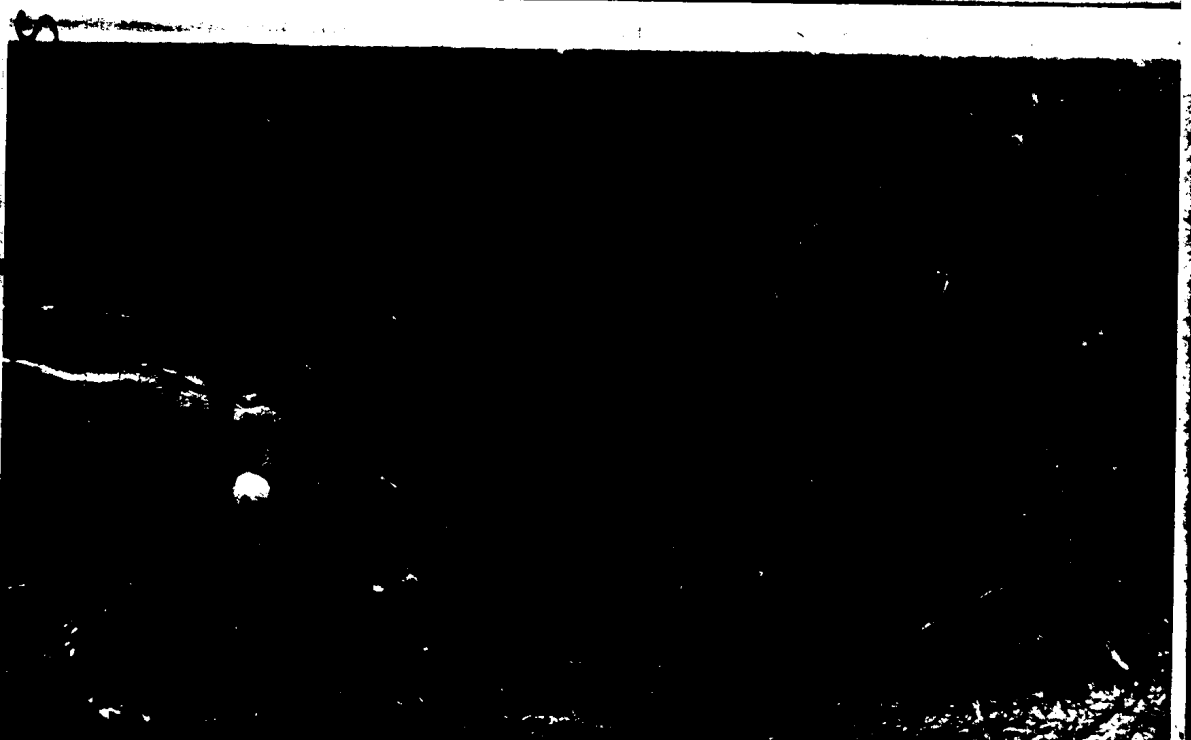


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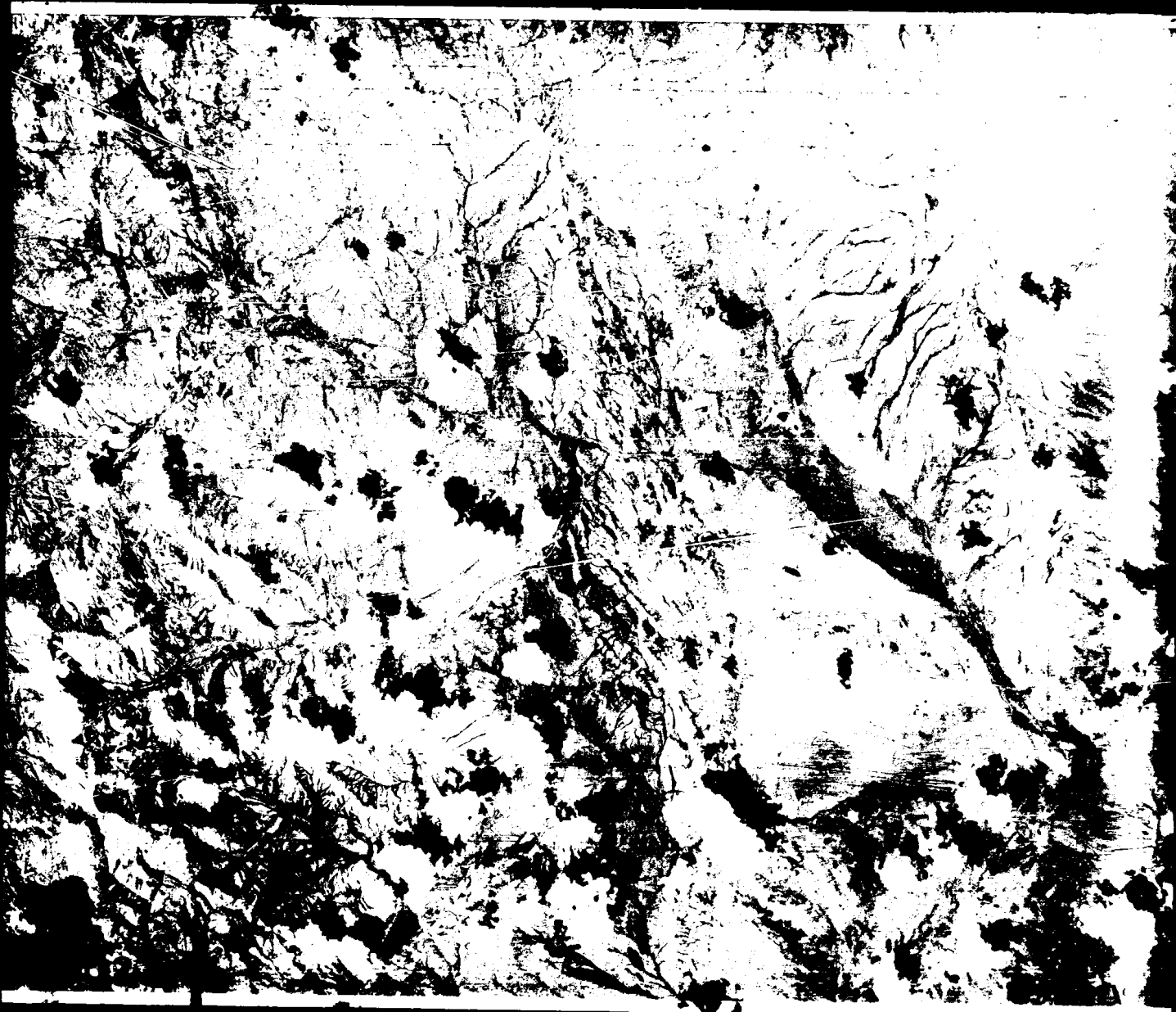


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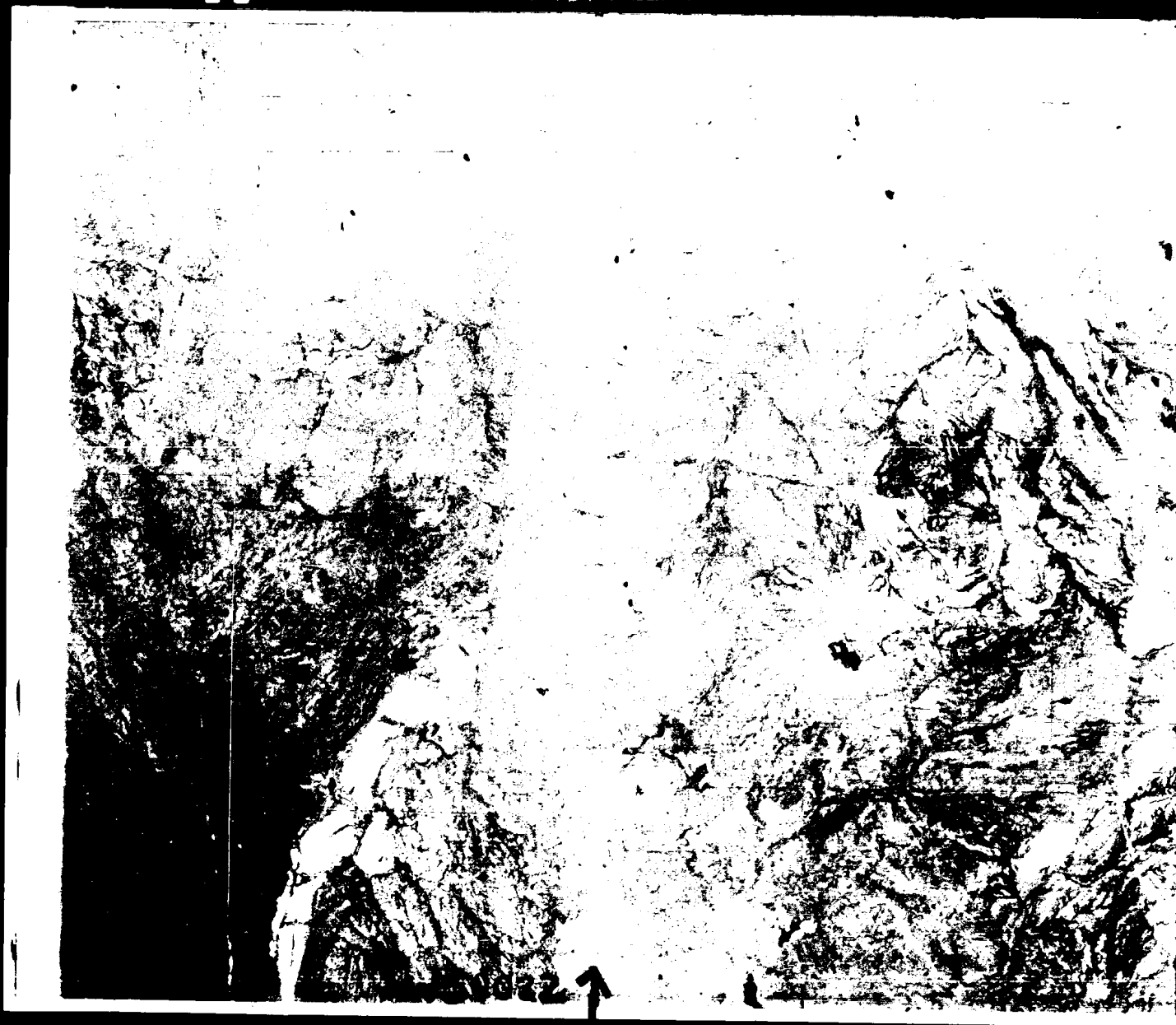
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